

# Additional Resources

## Delaware Sustainable Communities Planning Grant

( updated on 3/21/2017)

### Community Sustainability Plan

A community sustainability plan is a roadmap for making a community a socially fair, economically strong, and environmentally healthy place to live, work, and play. Developed in consultation with community members, a community sustainability plan is a long-term plan to help the community realize its collective sustainability goals. The plan also employs indicators to track progress towards these goals, and includes action plans that have roles for government, citizens, businesses, and civic organizations. The overarching vision of a sustainability plan and its specific actions can be very different from one community to another, depending on local priorities, resources, and opportunities.

#### *Tools and Resources:*

1. **STAR Community Rating System.** STAR is the nation's leading comprehensive framework and certification program for evaluating local sustainability, encompassing economic, environmental, and social performance measures. <http://www.starcommunities.org/about/framework/>
2. **Sustainability Indicators Catalog.** <https://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/indicators/discover>
3. **Supporting Sustainable Rural Communities**  
[https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/2011\\_11\\_supporting-sustainable-rural-communities.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/sites/production/files/documents/2011_11_supporting-sustainable-rural-communities.pdf)
4. **Sustainable Strategies for Small Cities and Rural Areas**  
<http://steamboatsprings.net/DocumentCenter/View/7002>
5. **Planning and Building Livable, Safe, and Sustainable Communities: The Patchwork Quilt Approach** - Natural Hazard Mitigation Association  
[http://nhma.info/uploads/PatchWork/THE\\_PATCHWORK\\_QUILT\\_websiteaddition.pdf](http://nhma.info/uploads/PatchWork/THE_PATCHWORK_QUILT_websiteaddition.pdf)
6. **A Sustainability Planning Guide for Healthy Communities.**[https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dch/programs/healthycommunitiesprogram/pdf/sustainability\\_guide.pdf](https://www.cdc.gov/nccdphp/dch/programs/healthycommunitiesprogram/pdf/sustainability_guide.pdf)
7. **Sustainable City Network.** Sustainable City Network's online content and collaboration tools help create a distinctive niche community and marketplace where sustainability professionals can interact with colleagues and vendors in an easy and efficient way.  
<http://www.sustainablecitynetwork.com/>
8. **A Dozen Tools for Accelerating Local Sustainability Leadership-** APA webinar series  
List of national community level sustainability tools.  
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GrtXbYuKR74>

### *State Sustainability Certifications:*

1. Sustainable Jersey <http://www.sustainablejersey.com/>
2. Sustainable Maryland <http://sustainablemaryland.com/>
3. PA Sustainable Communities <http://www.sustainablepacommunitycertification.org/>

### *Examples:*

- **OneNYC Plan: New York City Sustainability and Resiliency Plan.**  
<http://www1.nyc.gov/html/onenyc/index.html>
- **Greenworks: A Vision for a Sustainable Philadelphia**  
<https://beta.phila.gov/documents/greenworks-a-vision-for-a-sustainable-philadelphia/>
- **City of Baltimore Sustainability plan.** <http://www.baltimoresustainability.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/12/Baltimore-Sustainability-Plan.pdf>
- **Sustainability Element of the Master Plan Haddonfield Borough, NJ**  
[http://www.haddonfieldsustainabilityelement.com/uploads/5/2/9/5/5295958/150522\\_haddonfield\\_sustainability\\_element\\_document.pdf](http://www.haddonfieldsustainabilityelement.com/uploads/5/2/9/5/5295958/150522_haddonfield_sustainability_element_document.pdf)
- **City of Oberlin Ohio Sustainability dashboard** <http://environmentaldashboard.org/>
- **City of Newark, [NJ Sustainability Plan](#)**
- **The Sustainable plan for Camden County, NJ**

## **Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment and Action Plan**

A climate vulnerability assessment and action plan assesses the likely effects of increasing temperatures, sea level rise and heavy rainfall caused by climate change on infrastructure, homes, businesses, public health, and quality of life. The assessment and planning process engages citizens to develop goals, assess risks, and propose additional studies, policies or on-the-ground actions to adapt to changing climate conditions. Delaware has state-specific climate historical data and projections that can be used for assessment and planning by local governments.

### *Tools and Resources:*

1. **Climate Adaptation: The State of Practice in U.S. Communities.** An in-depth review of the actions 17 communities are taking to address extreme weather events such as floods and heat waves, as well as climate variability and climate Change  
<http://kresge.org/climate-adaptation>
2. **ICLEI Local Government for Sustainability Climate Resiliency & Adaptation Services**  
<http://icleiusa.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/09/ICLEI-USA-Adaptation-Services.pdf>

3. **Preparing for Climate Change: A Guidebook for Local, Regional, and State Governments**  
<http://iclei.usa.org/wp-content/uploads/2015/06/Preparing-for-Climate-Change-Adaptation-Guidebook.pdf>
4. **EPA's Climate Resilience Evaluation and Awareness Tool (CREAT)**  
<https://www.epa.gov/crwu/build-climate-resilience-your-utility>
5. **Adaptation Clearinghouse-** <http://www.adaptationclearinghouse.org/>
6. **Climate Adaptation Knowledge Exchange-** <http://www.cakex.org/>

### *Delaware Climate Change Information Sources:*

1. **Delaware Climate Change Impact Assessment**  
<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/energy/Pages/The-Delaware-Climate-Impact-Assessment.aspx>
2. **Delaware Climate Projections Portal**  
<http://climate.udel.edu/declimateprojections/>
3. **Preparing for Tomorrow's High Tide: Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment for the State of Delaware**  
<http://www.dnrec.delaware.gov/coastal/pages/slr/delawareslr-vulnerability-assessment.aspx>
4. **Delaware Sea Level Rise Inundation Maps**  
[www.de.gov/slrmap](http://www.de.gov/slrmap)

### *Examples:*

- City of Lewes Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Action Plan.  
[http://www.ci.lewes.de.us/pdfs/Lewes\\_Hazard\\_Mitigation\\_and\\_Climate\\_Adaptation\\_Action\\_Plan\\_FinalDraft\\_8-2011.pdf](http://www.ci.lewes.de.us/pdfs/Lewes_Hazard_Mitigation_and_Climate_Adaptation_Action_Plan_FinalDraft_8-2011.pdf)
- Delaware City Hazard Mitigation and Climate Adaptation Action Plan.  
[http://delawarecity.delaware.gov/files/2014/12/Delaware-City-Hazard-Climate-Action-Plan\\_no-appendices\\_January-20141.pdf](http://delawarecity.delaware.gov/files/2014/12/Delaware-City-Hazard-Climate-Action-Plan_no-appendices_January-20141.pdf)
- Albany, NY Vulnerability Assessment and Adaptation Plan.  
<http://resources.kimlundgrenassociates.com.php53-13.dfw1-1.websitetestlink.com/wp-content/uploads/2015/04/Albany-NY-Vulnerability-Assessment-Adaptation-Plan.pdf>

## **Greenhouse Gas Inventory and Mitigation Plan**

A greenhouse gas inventory is a measurement of the amount of greenhouse gas emissions produced by residents, schools, businesses, and industries in a given year. The greenhouse gas inventory can be conducted at the government operation scale or the community scale. The greenhouse gas inventory can be used as a proxy to find energy inefficiencies and identify opportunities for operational improvement. The inventory can be reported publicly to build awareness and support for actions that can reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

With the information gathered in a greenhouse gas inventory, municipalities can create a mitigation plan for reducing energy inefficiencies and greenhouse gas emissions. A mitigation plan is a set of strategies and actions designed to reduce the greenhouse gas emissions of a municipality. It establishes a timeline for achieving specific emission reduction goals, identifies key strategies for achieving these goals, and tracks progress. With a mitigation plan, organizations and agencies can identify which strategies will most significantly reduce greenhouse gases at the lowest cost. This helps communities allocate funding and resources effectively.

### *Tools and Resources:*

1. **The Climate Registry** - <http://www.theclimateregistry.org/>
2. **ClearPath™**. The leading online software platform for completing greenhouse gas inventories, forecasts, climate action plans, and monitoring at the community-wide or government operations scale. <http://iclei.usa.org/clearpath/>
3. **Clean Air- Cool Planet Community Toolkit**. [http://www.cleanair-coolplanet.org/for\\_communities/toolkit\\_home.php](http://www.cleanair-coolplanet.org/for_communities/toolkit_home.php)
4. **The U.S. Community Protocol for Accounting and Reporting of Greenhouse Gas Emissions Protocol\***. (Community Protocol) is the national standard for measurement and reporting of community GHG emissions, including municipal operations and other sources. <http://iclei.usa.org/publications/us-community-protocol/>
5. **Local Greenhouse Gas Inventory Tool**. <https://www.epa.gov/statelocalclimate/local-greenhouse-gas-inventory-tool>
6. **Global Protocol for Community-Scale Greenhouse Gas Emission Inventories (GPC)**. [file:///C:/Users/bahareh.van%20boekhold/Downloads/GHGP\\_GPC.pdf](file:///C:/Users/bahareh.van%20boekhold/Downloads/GHGP_GPC.pdf)

### *Examples:*

- Regional Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory, PA. <http://www.dvrpc.org/reports/09038A.pdf>
- Berkeley Climate Action Plan. <http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=19668>
- City of Kingston, NY Climate Action Plan. [http://www.kingston-ny.gov/filestorage/8463/10953/10960/Kingston\\_Climate\\_Action\\_Plan\\_FINAL.pdf](http://www.kingston-ny.gov/filestorage/8463/10953/10960/Kingston_Climate_Action_Plan_FINAL.pdf)
- **City of Watervliet Climate Action Plan**. [http://watervliet.com/city/Watervliet\\_Climate\\_Action\\_Plan.pdf](http://watervliet.com/city/Watervliet_Climate_Action_Plan.pdf)
- **City of Oberlin, OH 2015 Climate GHG Inventory and Action Plan Update** <http://www.cityofoberlin.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/10/2015-CAP-update-nn.pdf>  
2013 Climate Action Plan <http://www.cityofoberlin.com/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/2013-cap-online-pdf.pdf>

## Natural Areas Inventory and Conservation Plan

A natural areas inventory compiles and describes important natural resources such as forests, wetlands, surface and ground waters, and farmland within a community. It can also provide information about the economic, social, and public health benefits of maintain a community's natural areas. Cultural resources, such as historic sites, scenic vistas, and recreation areas are often included as well. A conservation plan specifies actions that can be taken to protect important natural resources in a community and to augment their benefits to the community. This information provides the foundation for open space planning and protection, zoning updates, designation of critical environmental areas, flooding and drainage plans, green infrastructure implementation, comprehensive plans, and other municipal plans and policies.

### *Tools and Resources:*

1. **Natural Resources Inventories; A Guide for New Hampshire Communities and Conservation Groups.** [https://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Resource000215\\_Rep233.pdf](https://extension.unh.edu/resources/files/Resource000215_Rep233.pdf)
2. **Minnesota Department of Natural Resource - Natural Resource Guidance Checklist Natural Resource Inventory and Analysis for City or County.**  
<http://files.dnr.state.mn.us/assistance/nrplanning/community/nrchecklists/inventory.pdf>

### *Examples:*

- Elk Township, NJ Environmental Resource Inventory. <http://www.dvrpc.org/reports/08010.pdf>
- Franklin Township Environmental Resource Inventory. [http://www.franklintownship.com/site/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/FranklinERI\\_Update\\_2012.pdf](http://www.franklintownship.com/site/wp-content/uploads/2013/02/FranklinERI_Update_2012.pdf)

